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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/337,181	06/21/1999	YUHICHI NAKAMURA	JA998-075	8654

7590 04/20/2004

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EXAMINER

DINH. KHANH Q

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2151

22

DATE MAILED: 04/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/337,181

Applicant(s)

NAKAMURA ET AL.

Examiner

Khanh Dinh

Art Unit

2151

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 February 2004.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is in response to the Amendment (paper #21) filed on 2/6/2004. Claims 1-20 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

3. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over West et al. US pat. No.6,081,508 in view of Blakeley et al., US pat. No.5,563,878.

As to claim 1, West discloses a method for multicasting a retrieval request message to more than one of a plurality of mobile agents comprising the steps of:

receiving a packet comprising a retrieval request message and preferential destination for said retrieval request as designated by a user (i.e., local computer 100 fig. 1 can be used as mobile agent, see col.1 lines 22-6) (i.e., using Access 550 to

retrieve user-specific information from a local database, see col.12 line 24 to col.13 line 30),

dynamically creating a list of destinations (user can choose from a "pull down" list of names and pressing a "more" button to view information related to the connections) for responding to said retrieval request, said list comprising more than one of said plurality of mobile request handling agent (local computer 110 fig. 1) to whom said message is to be sent, by referring to said retrieval request and sending said list to the mobile handling agent as determined as destinations for responding to said request (see figs., 3 and 18, abstract, col.4 line 56 to col.5 line 56, col.7 line 13 to col.8 line 60 and col.25 line 3 to col.26 line 65).

West further teaches that the computer system can be used for additional mobile users (mobile workers, see col.1 lines 22-65) or pluralities or plurality of users in response to said retrieval request (1805a, 1805b, 1805c of fig.20) (i.e., startup of operation of a delivery system of delivery users, see figs. 19, 20, col.25 line 58 to col.28 line 7 and col.29 line 9 to col.30 line 57).

West does not specifically disclose a non-address destination information in the message. However, Blakeley discloses using a non-address destination information in the message [i.e., using a non-address field (AgentParm) is included in the NAPS element to assist in both routing and processing of the message, see abstract, fig.6, col.11 lines 8-46 and col.12 line 13 to col.14 line 42]. It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement Blakeley's teachings into the computer system of West to enhance routing flexible types

Art Unit: 2151

of messages in a communication networks because it would have ensured the forwarding of a message to the appropriate destination even the original station does not know the address of the ultimate destination and allowed users to specify significant variables in the route editing facility (see Blakeley's col.2 lines 43-56 and col.14 lines 32-42).

As to claims 2 and 3, West discloses using priority messaging policy data defining priorities of agents to which said message can be sent with different types (i.e., using a distributed security policy based on levels of rings, levels or trust to delivery multicast messages, see fig. 18, abstract, co1.24 line 48 to co1.26 line 37 and co1.27 line 25 to col.28 line 65).

As to claim 4, West further discloses messaging policy data defines the number of agents, which receive the message for each type of message (i.e., defining access points, see co1.5 line 17 to co1.6 line 58 and co1.7 line 13 to co1.8 line 56).

As to claim 5, West discloses using priorities of agents defined in said messaging policy data and pairs of agent names and priorities included in said preferential destination information to determine destination agents from an agent having highest priority (i.e., distributing security based on levels, rings or trust, see fig.6, co1.10 line 55 to col.11 line 65, col.17 lines 10-53 and col.25 line 3 to co1.26 line 65).

Art Unit: 2151

As to claim 6, West discloses sending information concerning agents which are not determined as destination agents and said message to a representative agent which represents agents to which said message can be sent (see col.17 line 10 to co1.19 line 21 and co1.20 line 6 to col.21 line 55).

As to claim 7, West discloses sending information concerning agents which are not determined as destination agents and said message to a representative agent which represents agents to which said message can be sent (see co1.17 line 10 to col.19 line 21 and co1.20 line 6 to co1.21 line 55).

As to claim 8, West discloses a representative agent generating a response message for a source agent of a message, by referring to information from pre-registered agents to which said message can be sent (see figs.6 and 18, co1.10 line 55 to col.11 line 65, co1.17 lines 10-53 and col.25 line 3 to co1.26 line 65).

As to claim 9, West discloses a representative agent generates a response message for a source agent of a message, by referring to information from pre-registered agents to which said message can be sent (see figs.6 and 18, co1.10 line 55 to col.11 line 65, co1.17 lines 10-53 and co1.25 line 3 to col.26 line 65).

As to claim 10, West further discloses a computer comprising:

an execution environment for a mobile request handling agents (local computer 110 fig.1 can be used as a mobile worker, see col.1 lines 22-65 and col.25 line 3 to col. 26 line 65).

dynamically creating a list of destinations (user can choose from a "pull down" list of names and pressing a "more" button to view information related to the connections), a message monitor for receiving a packet comprising a retrieval request message and preferential destination information designated by a user (100 fig. 1) (i.e., using Access 550 to retrieve user-specific information from a local database, see col.12 line 24 to col.13 line 30), from an agent being active in the execution environment, determining to which mobile agents (i.e., 110 fig. 1 can be used as mobile worker, see col.1 lines 22-6) a message is to be sent, by referring to said retrieval request and preferential destination information and then sending said message to the agents determined as destinations (see figs., 3 and 18, abstract, col.4 line 56 to col.5 line 56, col.7 line 13 to col.8 line 60 and col.25 line 3 to col.26 line 65).

West further teaches that the computer system can be used for additional users or pluralities or plurality of mobile users (mobile workers, see col.1 lines 22-65) in response to said retrieval request (1805a, 1805b, 1805c of fig.20) (i.e., startup of operation of a delivery system of delivery users, see figs. 19, 20, col.25 line 58 to col.28 line 7 and col.29 line 9 to col.30 line 57).

West does not specifically disclose a non-address destination information in the message. However, Blakeley discloses using a non-address destination information in the message [i.e., using a non-address field (AgentParm) is included in the NAPS

Art Unit: 2151

element to assist in both routing and processing of the message, see abstract, fig.6, col.11 lines 8-46 and col.12 line 13 to col.14 line 42]. It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement Blakeley's teachings into the computer system of West to process a plurality of different packet communication networks because it would have ensured the forwarding of message to the appropriate destination even the original station does not know the address of the ultimate destination.

Claims 11-14 are rejected for the same reasons set forth in claims 2, 5, 6 and 7 respectively.

Claims 15-18 are rejected for the same reasons set forth in claims 1, 2, 6 and 7 respectively.

As to claims 19 and 20, West discloses a method for multicasting a message to agents, comprising:

receiving a retrieval request message and preferential destination information designated by a user (i.e., using Access 550 to retrieve user-specific information from a local database, see col.12 line 24 to col.13 line 30).

dynamically creating a list of destinations (user can choose from a "pull down" list of names and pressing a "more" button to view information related to the connections) for responding to said retrieval request determining to which mobile handling agent said message is to be sent, by referring to a messaging policy data defining priorities of

Art Unit: 2151

mobile agents (mobile workers, see col.1 lines 22-65) to which said message can be sent and sending said message to the handling agents to whom said message is to be sent by referring to a preferential destinations (i.e., using a distributed security policy based on levels of rings, levels or trust to delivery multicast messages, see figs. 1, 3 and 18, abstract, col.4 line 56 to co1.5 line 56, co1.7 line 13 to co1.8 line 60 and col.25 line 3 to co1.26 line 65).

West further teaches that the computer system can be used for additional mobile user or pluralities or plurality of mobile users in response to said retrieval message (1805a, 1805b, 1805c of fig.20) (i.e., startup of operation of a delivery system of delivery users, see figs. 19, 20, col.25 line 58 to co1.28 line 7 and co1.29 line 9 to co1.30 line 57).

West does not specifically disclose a non-address destination information in the message. However, Blakeley discloses using a non-address destination information in the message [i.e., using a non-address field (AgentParm) is included in the NAPS element to assist in both routing and processing of the message, see abstract, fig.6, col.11 lines 8-46 and col.12 line 13 to col.14 line 42]. It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement Blakeley's teachings into the computer system of West to process a plurality of different packet communication networks because it would have ensured the forwarding of message to the appropriate destination even the original station does not know the address of the ultimate destination.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

5. Claims 1-20 are rejected.

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Khanh Dinh whose telephone number is (703) 308-

8528. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 A.m. to 5:00 P.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenton Burgess, can be reached on (703) 305-4792. The fax phone number for this group is (703) 872-9306.

A shortened statutory period for reply is set to expire THREE months from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to response within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned (35 U.S. C . Sect. 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(A).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305 -9600.


FRANTZ B. JEAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Khanh Dinh
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2151
4/7/2004